



Junior Gathering Times 2014

California University
of Pennsylvania

Junior Gathering
June 2014

A Message from the Clerks of the Gathering

Our vision for the 2014 Gathering is that it starts with Love and then moves through worship, drumming, and all sorts of other activities to connect us all in a sense of the Beloved community. This summer our Quaker community includes Friends ranging from a newborn to a 95 year old, from over 14 Yearly Meetings in the United States, Canada as well as abroad.

Please join us on Sunday evening for the **Opening Worship and All Gathering Welcome** a unique opportunity to experience this vision actually happening! It starts at 7:00 pm. Come for as much, or as little of it as your travel and attention spans allow.

There will be a 'Wiggle' section with quiet activities. We will meet, sing, and play together before closing with worship. It will end by 8:30 pm, so you can attend the Oaks orientation, or settle into the dormitories.

Thank you for coming to the 2014 FGC Gathering!

Laura Melly
Miyu Moriuchi
Zan Lombardo
Co-Clerks
2014 Gathering Committee

Welcome Young People, Parents, and Sponsors to the 2014 FGC Gathering.

Our theme this year is "Let Love be the First Motion." What more appropriate description could there be of our attitude toward our families and each other? As your Friend in Residence for this year's Junior Gathering, I hope to meet and welcome each of you during our week together as we create and nurture a community built upon this first motion of Love.

I'm looking forward to spending time with each of the groups in Junior Gathering, and working with parents, exploring this theme together.

We are most fortunate to have a great staff of caring, creative, fun-loving volunteers who are dedicated to making this a wonderful week for everyone.

Take advantage of Our Family Place, where you will find activities for young people and support for parents every afternoon of the Gathering. I hope to see you there.

The Gathering presents a wonderful chance for us to recharge our batteries. It can also be such a busy time that the opposite can occur. So please take your time and be safe in your travels and be kind to yourselves as the week unfolds.

Feel free to share with me any concerns (or excitements!) that come up for you during the week. As you travel, I hold you all in the Light.
Warmly,
Chuck Esser
JG Friend in Residence 2014

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Who to Know:

Junior Gathering Co-Clerks:

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Junior Gathering Friend in Residence:

Chuck Esser
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FGC Junior Gathering Coordinator:

Patsy Arnold Martin
215-561-1700 ext 3050
patsym@fgcquaker.org



FGC
FRIENDS
GENERAL CONFERENCE

Got questions?

Check out our FAQs:

www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/programs-and-events/children-teens/jgfaqs

For campus info visit the

California University of Pennsylvania
website: www.calu.edu



In Junior gathering, Pinecones are Preschoolers who have not completed Kindergarten, usually ages 3 to 5.

Junior Gathering Hours:

Sunday evening we begin with open house at **5:45 after dinner, but before Opening Plenary**

Junior Gathering Morning Program **8:45 until noon**

Junior Gathering Evening Program **6:45 until 9:00 pm**

No Junior Gathering Evening Program on **Wednesday** because of: Tony Vacca and Bidee Bou Bess A Concert for all Ages

Parents To Do :

- Give your cell phone number to your child's group leader!
- Pick up a Daily Bulletin every morning
- Plan family activities for the afternoons
- Sign up for Cooperative Childcare at Our Family Place.
- Join other families during free time.

Junior Gathering Open House: in Carter Sunday, June 29 5:45-6:45 pm

Come see the **space** for your Junior Gathering Group. Meet your group **leaders**. Get a **preview** of the week's activities. Meet other parents with children the same ages as yours.

Junior Gathering Open House is for parents and all children from newborns through those entering 6th grade in the fall.

Learn about Acorns, Pinecones, Sprouts, Saplings and Pinetrees! Look on the back of your nametags for specific Group Locations. We look forward to meeting you!

Junior Gathering Attendance Policy

We expect to see each child at each session.

To ensure the safety, well-being, and comfort level of everyone, these procedures must be followed:

For newborns to those entering 6th grade this fall:

- Parents must sign these children in and out of morning and evening groups daily.

Children in these groups who do not arrive for their group will be missed but we will not search for them.

For middle schoolers entering 7th to 9th grade this fall (Oaks):

- Starting **Monday** evening with a parent's written permission these young friends may sign themselves in and out.
- We will search for older children who have been given permission to sign themselves in and do not show up!! This may mean interrupting a parent's workshop.
- Parents must inform staff if a child in this group is not going to Junior Gathering that day.

For all Junior Gathering Participants:

During program time, children must either be in their groups, with an adult, or in their room. Children and middle-schoolers may not walk around campus on their own during Morning Workshop or Evening Plenary times.

We appreciate your co-operation in caring for the safety of all of our children.

A typical family day:

7:00-8:30 AM Breakfast

8:45-12 noon Junior Gathering Morning Program

12:00-1:30 PM Lunch

Afternoon Family Time

1:30-5:00 PM options include:

- Our Family Place: **1:30 - 4:30**
- MultiGen activities (see p.4)
- Field Trips
- Make your own plans

5:00-6:30 PM Dinner

6:45-9:00 PM Junior Gathering Evening Program (except Wed. - Come to the concert!)

9:15 pm Bedtime for little ones with cooperative childcare in the dorm so parents can go to Late Night Sings, Films, or Contra Dance.

FGC Bicycle and Riding Policy

At the Gathering "riders of bicycles, skate boards, long boards, scooters, and roller blades of **all** ages are required to wear **helmets**."

Pedestrians have the right of way and are not to be threatened with collision." *LRCP*



Pinetrees in Junior Gathering are 8 to 11 years old. Watch for Pinetrees on nametags or doors.

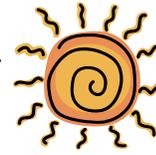


Acorns are our youngest Friends in Junior Gathering. Watch for acorns on name-tags and doors to meet families with other little acorns.

Sun and Sunburn

Gathering is a fun time with lots of activities to choose from. Here are some tips that we have learned over the years.

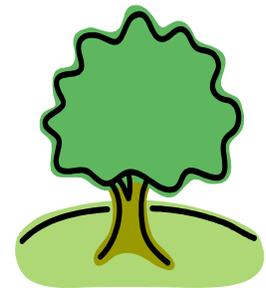
When it is sunny or hot: Drink lots of fluids. Bring a water bottle for your children. Help or remind them to start their day with a full water bottle. Please bring sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat. Remind your family and yourself to drink frequently throughout the day while participating in Gathering activities.



What are Oaks????

Middle Schoolers who have completed 6th, 7th, or 8th Grade.

Find out more at the **Oaks** Group Orientation at **8:45 pm Sunday night*** – **Gallagher Hall** (in place of Open House).



EVERY Oak participant and at least one parent or sponsor from each family are required to attend.*

At this orientation, **Oaks** staff present skits introducing each of the morning workshops. Each “middle-schooler” will indicate two favorites. (Then on Monday morning, they will find out what their workshops will be.)

We'll also go over the ground rules, review health forms, and answer your questions.

This is a time for parents or sponsors and youngsters to work together to set expectations for the week that are consistent among families.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Help us Plan for the Needs of Your Child

Please let us know in advance if a child in your family has particular needs or if there are family circumstances of which you think we should be aware. All information about challenges in coping with groups, serious illness, allergies, limitation in physical ability, or significant changes in a child's life will be treated tenderly.

Communicating this information will allow the Junior Gathering staff to prepare appropriately for your child's needs.

Contact your child's group coordinator (see letter enclosed) or Patsy Arnold Martin, the FGC Staff Junior Gathering Coordinator at 215-561-1700 ext.

Tips for a Successful Gathering for your Family

With so many choices of activities for youth and parents, stopping to think about what we need sometimes takes a backseat.

- * Pause between activities.
- * Allow space for some of the wonderful Gathering ‘coincidences’ to occur.
- * Set an intention for the day and share it with your family. At the end of the day check in and see how things went. Does tomorrow's plan need to be readjusted based on today?
- * Plan your day to meet the needs of your family for play, food, rest, worship, and water!
- * Think about Love as the First Motion and what it means for your week at Gathering!

Things to bring:

- ✓ Alarm clock
- ✓ Clothes you can get wet or dirty!
- ✓ Musical instruments
- ✓ Swimsuit and towel
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ A cooler for your family - since this campus has very few refrigerators
- ✓ A doorstop for your room to make it easy for Friends to see when you are available to visit.

Remember to label things you bring.

*If you have conflicting orientations, contact:

2014 FGC High School Coordinators:

Deanna Boyd
deanna.m.boyd@gmail.com

Jacob Stewart
jacobstewart819@gmail.com

They will reschedule your High School Parent Meeting!



A Sapling is a young tree. Junior Gathering Saplings are Young Friends ages 7 to 9 years.

Family Housing at Cal U:

All dorm rooms have their own bathroom. To help families meet and share time together, we encourage people to prop their door open when you are available for visitors.

Additionally, noise travels well in these dorms. Please be considerate of your neighbors by having conversations after 9 p.m. and before 7 a.m. in the nearby lounges.

Laundry cards are available for purchase for short time use. (\$4.00 at the Gathering Info Desk.)



Sprouts are really growing—and so are the children in Junior Gathering who are 5 to 8 years old. Our Sprouts have finished Kindergarten.

Some Special Events

Tuesday

Parent Feedback Meeting 3:15 PM

Wednesday

Take a Nap afternoon!

Multigenerational Plenary 7:00

NO JG Evening Groups

Saturday

9:00 AM All Gathering Worship

Have a safe trip home & plan to come to the 2015 FGC Gathering at Western Carolina University, July 5-11.

Our Family Place: where families can play, read, learn and relax **together**. You're part of Junior Gathering; you're part of Our Family Place!

Open to families from 1:30-4:30 in Carter Hall

A Place to:

- Get acquainted with and reconnect with other families.
- Set up playdates and cooperative childcare!
- Bring your instruments, gifts, and voices to join in music, art, storytelling and discussion.
- A place for you to simply relax as a family with art or games, or check out books from the **Junior Gathering Lending Library** (See below).



Monday at 1:30 p.m.— Come to a **Meeting for Worship** with attention to planning the week: Offer to lead a discussion, games, songs or stories for later in the week or suggest discussion topics at **Our Family Place**.

If you have ideas you'd like to share before you come to the Gathering, contact Franny Holly at holly70@yahoo.com

Junior Gathering Library: We have a library of children's books available for you to check out all week in Our Family Place. We also invite you to donate your favorite new or used books to our collection. Please bring donations to Our Family Place between 1:30 and 4:30 Mon—Fri.



Multi-Gens: Activities for all ages to enjoy together in the afternoons.

- Monday 1:30 p.m. **Capture the Flag** Front Lawn
- Tuesday 1:30 p.m. Peace, Love and Sidewalk Chalk; Gallagher Sidewalk
- Tuesday 3:15 p.m. Story-time in the Center for People of Color
- Thursday 1:30 p.m. Tag Games Front Lawn
- Thursday 4:00 p.m. Tony Vacca Drumming at Family Place
- Friday 1:30 p.m. Spoken Word Concert with Tony Vacca

Check the Daily Bulletin for times and locations of other family friendly events and for special activities at Our Family Place.

Swimming and Exercise Options

The **Hamer Pool** will be open to Gathering registrants at no charge.

Monday June 30th - Friday July 4th during these times:

6:30 am—7:30 am (morning lap swim)

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm (afternoon rec swim)



All Gathering participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.



The **exercise machines** in **Herron Gym** are available for Gathering registrants 18 years or older, 10 am to 8 pm, Monday-Thursday. The cost to use the gym is \$5/person/week (pay at the gym with cash).